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Jan. 20, 1981  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Jeff Jacob (Cissna Park) has started three games at center for the Eastern Illinois University basketball team.

Jacob, a 6-7 senior, was expected to add depth to the front line but recently has been called on to start for the Panthers.

Jacob, the only three-year letterman on the team, has responded with averages of 2.7 points and 3.8 rebounds in 12 games. His high games were 10 points against Northern Michigan and nine rebounds against St. Joseph's.

"Jake was thrust into the starting lineup against Kansas State, and has responded well . . . another case where confidence suffers a bit when you don't play and now that he's been given the opportunity, has made the most of it," says first year Coach Rick Samuels.

"Specifically, he's done a good job around the basket . . . positions well, works to get open . . . can hit the basket. Opponents can't afford not to respect him."

Eastern, 7-7, concludes its season with ten of its final 13 games at home with Mid-Continent Conference rival Youngstown State here Saturday (Jan. 24) night.